

CLAIMS:

1. A method of presenting search results obtained from a search conducted over a computer network, said search being performed using searching criteria and returning
5 information including a plurality of network locations, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) extracting data from a first one of said network locations;
- (b) examining said data to identify therein said searching criteria to provide at least one specific location within said first network location of said searching criteria;
- 10 (c) using said one specific location to identify from said extracted data specific data including at least said searching criteria;
- (d) formatting said specific data into a printable document; and
- (e) repeating steps (a) to (d) for each remaining said network location in which step (d) incorporates said formatted data of said remaining network location to said
15 printable document.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein step (c) comprises identifying further specific data from a predetermined plurality of said specific locations within said network location.
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3. A method according to claim 1 wherein step (d) comprises incorporating (first) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate extracted data from different ones of said network locations.

25 4. A method according to claim 1 wherein step (d) further comprises formatting root data, obtained from said extracted data at a root location of said network location, into said formatted printable document in association with the corresponding said specific data whereby said root data supports a contextual basis to said corresponding specific data.

5. A method according to claim 4 wherein step (d) further comprises incorporating (second) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate said corresponding specific data from said root data of one said network location.

5 6. A method according to claim 1 wherein said printable document is formatted into a plurality of columns.

7. A method according to claim 1 comprising the further step of:

10 (f) electronically displaying the printable document to an instigator of said search.

8. A method according to claim 7 wherein said printable document is displayed in a print preview format.

15 9. A method according to claim 1 comprising the further step of:
(g) printing said printable document.

20 10. A method according to claim 7 comprising the further step of:
(g) printing said electronically displayed printable document.

11. A method according to claim 1 wherein said extracted data is of a plurality of data types, and said formatting converts said data types into a common data type suitable for each of electronic display and printing.

25 12. A method of formatting an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) sourcing main data from at least one location in a computer network, said sourced main data including a plurality of data types;

(b) formatting said sourced main data into a common data type suitable for each of electronic display and printing;

(c) arranging said formatted data as a printable document spanning at least one printable page;

(d) identifying one or more locations where said at least one page is void of said formatted data; and

(e) sourcing further data from said computer network; and

(f) formatting and incorporating said sourced further data within said at least one location in said printable document.

13. A method according to claim 13 wherein step (c) comprises arranging at least some of said formatted data so that plural components thereof are reproducible on at least a single said printable page.

14. A method according to claim 12 wherein said further data is configured in a plurality of data types and step (f) comprises formatting said further data into said common data type.

15. A method according to claim 12 wherein step (f) comprises adjusting a reproducible size of said further data to permit incorporation in said at least one location.

16. A method according to claim 12 wherein said further data is related to a context of said main data.

17. A method according to claim 16 wherein said further data comprises advertising content related to said context.

18. A method according to claim 16 wherein step (e) comprises advising a specified location within said network of said context, and said specified location then using said

context to extract from a further location with said network said further data for supply to said printable document.

19. A method of formatting an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said method comprising the steps of:
- (a) obtaining from a searching process location information within a computer network of at least one search result returned by said searching process;
 - (b) using said location information to fetch data from said computer network relating to each said search result, said data including said searching criteria; and
 - (c) formatting the fetched data including said searching criteria into a printable electronic document.

20. A method according to claim 19 wherein step (b) comprises, for each said search result, the sub-steps of:
- (ba) using the corresponding location information to fetch all data accessible for said search result;
 - (bb) checking said fetched all data to identify said searching criteria therein; and
 - (bc) recording, for each identification of said searching criteria, a specific location of said searching criteria within said fetched all data.

21. A method according to claim 20 wherein step (b) comprises, for each said search result, the further sequential step of:
- (bd) discarding said fetched all data where said searching criteria is not at least once identified therein.

22. A method according to claim 19 wherein step (c) comprises, for each said search result, the sub-steps of:

(ca) identifying at least one portion of said fetched data associated with at least one occurrence of said search criteria;

(cb) converting said identified one portion to a data format suitable for both electronic display and printing; and

5 (cc) incorporating said converted identified one portion into said electronic document according to a predetermined format.

23. A method according to claim 22 wherein, for each said search result, step (ca) utilises said specific location to identify the corresponding said portion.

10 24. A method according to claim 22 wherein step (c) comprises, for each said search result, the further sub-steps of:

(cd) identifying an initial portion of said fetched data arranged at a root of said location information; and

15 (ce) converting said initial portion to said common data format;
wherein step (cc) comprises incorporating said converted initial portion and said converted identified one portion into said electronic document.

20 25. Apparatus for presenting search results obtained from a search conducted over a computer network, said search being performed using searching criteria and returning information including a plurality of network locations, said method comprising the steps of:

means for extracting data from a first one of said network locations;
means for examining said data to identify therein said searching criteria to
25 provide at least one specific location within said first network location of said searching criteria;

means for using said one specific location to identify from said extracted data specific data including at least said searching criteria; and

means for formatting said specific data into a printable document.

26. Apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said means for using identifies further specific data from a predetermined plurality of said specific locations within said network location.

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27. A method according to claim 25 wherein said means for formatting incorporates (first) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate extracted data from different ones of said network locations.

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28. A method according to claim 25 wherein said means for formatting further formats root data, obtained from said extracted data at a root location of said network location, into said formatted printable document in association with the corresponding said specific data whereby said root data supports a contextual basis to said corresponding specific data and incorporates (second) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate said corresponding specific data from said root data of one said network location.

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29. Apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said printable document is formatted into a plurality of columns.

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30. Apparatus according to claim 25 further comprising:
a display device for displaying the printable document to an instigator of said search; and a printer for printing said printable document.

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31. Apparatus for formatting an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said apparatus comprising:

means for sourcing main data from at least one location in a computer network, said sourced main data including a plurality of data types;

means for formatting said sourced main data into a common data type suitable for each of electronic display and printing;

means for arranging said formatted data as a printable document spanning at least one printable page;

5 means for identifying one or more locations where said at least one page is void of said formatted data; and

means for sourcing further data from said computer network; and

means for formatting and incorporating said sourced further data within said at least one location in said printable document.

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32. Apparatus for formatting an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said apparatus comprising:

means for obtaining from a searching process location information within a computer network of at least one search result returned by said searching process;

15 means for using said location information to fetch data from said computer network relating to each said search result, said data including said searching criteria; and

means for formatting the fetched data including said searching criteria into a printable electronic document.

20 33. A computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program is configured to make a computer execute a procedure to present search results obtained from a search conducted over a computer network, said search being performed using searching criteria and returning information including a plurality of network locations, said program comprising:

25 code for extracting data from a first one of said network locations;

code for examining said data to identify therein said searching criteria to provide at least one specific location within said first network location of said searching criteria;

code for using said one specific location to identify from said extracted data specific data including at least said searching criteria; and

code for formatting said specific data into a printable document.

34. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 further comprising code for repeating operation of said program for each remaining said network location in which
5 said code for formatting incorporates said formatted data of said remaining network location to said printable document.

35. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 wherein said code for using identifies further specific data from a predetermined plurality of said specific locations
10 within said network location.

36. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 wherein said formatting comprises incorporating (first) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate extracted data from different ones of said network locations.
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37. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 wherein said code for formatting further comprises code for formatting root data, obtained from said extracted data at a root location of said network location, into said formatted printable document in association with the corresponding said specific data whereby said root data supports a
20 contextual basis to said corresponding specific data.

38. A computer readable medium according to claim 37 wherein code for formatting further comprises code for incorporating (second) graphical separators into said formatted printable document to separate said corresponding specific data from said root data of one
25 said network location.

39. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 wherein said printable document is formatted into a plurality of columns.

40. A computer readable medium according to claim 33 wherein said extracted data is of a plurality of data types, and said formatting converts said data types into a common data type suitable for each of electronic display and printing.

5 41. A computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program is configured to make a computer execute a procedure to format an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said program comprising the steps of:

code for sourcing main data from at least one location in a computer network, said sourced main data including a plurality of data types;

10 code for formatting said sourced main data into a common data type suitable for each of electronic display and printing;

code for arranging said formatted data as a printable document spanning at least one printable page;

code for identifying one or more locations where said at least one page is void of said formatted data; and

15 code for sourcing further data from said computer network; and
code for formatting and incorporating said sourced further data within said at least one location in said printable document.

20 42. A computer readable medium according to claim 41 wherein said arranging comprises arranging at least some of said formatted data so that plural components thereof are reproducible on at least a single said printable page.

43. A computer readable medium according to claim 41 wherein said further data is
25 configured in a plurality of data types and code for formatting formats said further data into said common data type.

44. A computer readable medium according to claim 41 wherein said formatting comprises adjusting a reproducible size of said further data to permit incorporation in said at least one location.

5 45. A computer readable medium according to claim 43 wherein said further data is related to a context of said main data.

46. A computer readable medium according to claim 45 wherein said further data comprises advertising content related to said context.

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47. A computer readable medium according to claim 46 wherein said code for sourcing advises a specified location within said network of said context, and said specified location then using said context to extract from a further location with said network said further data for supply to said printable document.

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48. A computer readable medium, having a program recorded thereon, where the program is configured to make a computer execute a procedure to format an electronic document intended for reproduction by printing, said method comprising the steps of:

code for obtaining from a searching process location information within a
20 computer network of at least one search result returned by said searching process;

code for using said location information to fetch data from said computer network relating to each said search result, said data including said searching criteria; and

code for formatting the fetched data including said searching criteria into a printable electronic document.

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49. A computer readable medium according to claim 48 wherein code for using comprises:

sub-code for using the corresponding location information to fetch all data accessible for said search result;

sub-code for checking said fetched all data to identify said searching criteria therein; and

sub-code for recording, for each identification of said searching criteria, a specific location of said searching criteria within said fetched all data,

5 each said sub-code being operable for each said search result.

50. A computer readable medium according to claim 49 wherein said code for using further comprises:

sub-code for discarding said fetched all data where said searching criteria is not
10 at least once identified therein.

51. A computer readable medium according to claim 48 wherein code for formatting comprises,:

sub-code for identifying at least one portion of said fetched data associated with
15 at least one occurrence of said search criteria;

sub-code for converting said identified one portion to a data format suitable for both electronic display and printing; and

sub-code for incorporating said converted identified one portion into said electronic document according to a predetermined format for each said search result,
20 each said sub-code being operable for each said search result.

52. A computer readable medium according to claim 51 wherein, for each said search result, said sub-code for identifying utilises said specific location to identify the corresponding said portion.

25 53. A computer readable medium according to claim 51 wherein said code for formatting further comprises:

sub-code for identifying an initial portion of said fetched data arranged at a root of said location information; and

